the two countries are continuing. Differences persist on some important aspects of the proposed treaty.

**Replacement of rangers by the regular Pakistan's army along the border**

*176. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report published in the "Indian Express", dated the 18th April, 1988 to the effect that regular Pakistan's army units are replacing the rangers along the International border between India and Pakistan;

(b) whether it is a fact that Pakistani military movement has increased along the border recently after the patrolling by the B.S.F. Jawans was intensified to check the entry of Pakistani intruders and the terrorists;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (c) Barring media reports, Government have no information suggesting the replacement of Pakistan Rangers by regular Army units or of any unusual increase in military movements across the international border.

(d) Government keep a close watch on all developments having a bearing on our security and take appropriate measures from time to time to ensure full defence preparedness.

**Compensation to the families of Indian Nationals killed/injured in Iraq-Iran war**

*177. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 709 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd March, 1987 and state:

(a) the number and details of the pending cases for which compensation has been settled by insurance companies, respective governments, so far in cases involving Indian Nationals in Iraq/Iran war;

(b) the details of the cases which are yet to be settled and together with the reasons in each case;

(c) the number of Indian nationals died in Iran-Iraq war since then together with the details in each case; and

(d) whether compensation has been paid in each case, if not, what are the reasons and the stage in which each case is presently pending for final settlement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

**Study of Himalayan Glaciers**

*178. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high priority has been accorded to Antarctica development than to intensive study of Himalayan glaciers and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) the number of seminars, national and international that have been organized for furthering the studies, knowledge of Antarctica and Himalayas, specially glaciers, the most important of perennial source of water which is now in serious short supply?